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THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on the Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.

2 COMPETITIONS!

THOMAS BOOKS!

ERTL MINIATURE TOYS

INSIDE!

36

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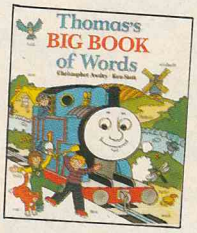
NOTICEBOARD

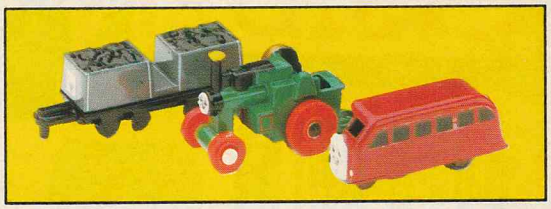
Peep! Peep! James the Red Engine has a shiny brass dome. He is also very proud of his ability to do very important jobs. In the story that begins on page 3, James has been stopped in his tracks! Find out what happens on Gordon's Hill! Don't miss our second story either to find out what the Fat Controller discovers in the lost property office! Peep! Peep!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

There are two fantastic competitions to enter in this issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends**. On page **7**, you can win some exciting picture books, courtesy of *Reed Children's Books* (see opposite)!



On page **14**, you can also win some fantastic **Miniature Range** Thomas toys, courtesy of *ERTL (UK) Ltd!*



HOW TO OBTAIN YOUR FAT CONTROLLER'S CARD!

If you would like to receive your very own, splendid **Fat Controller's Card**, just send one **red**, **yellow** and **blue** token together with your details listed below (details need only be listed on any one of the 3 coloured tokens when applying for this offer) plus a stamped addressed envelope to: *The Fat Controller's Card Offer, Marvel Comics Ltd., 13-15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*

Name .....

Address .....

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THOMAS TOKEN

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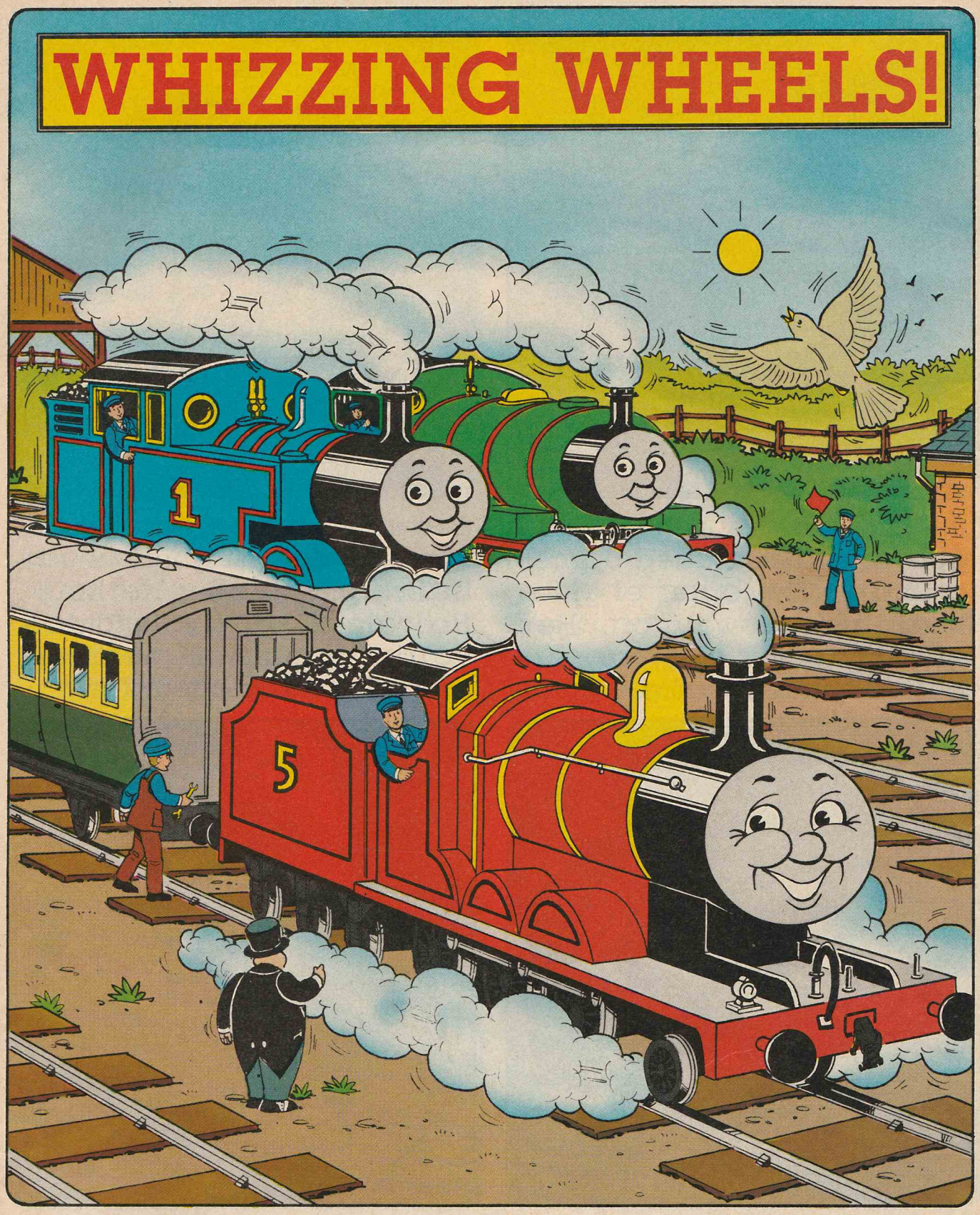
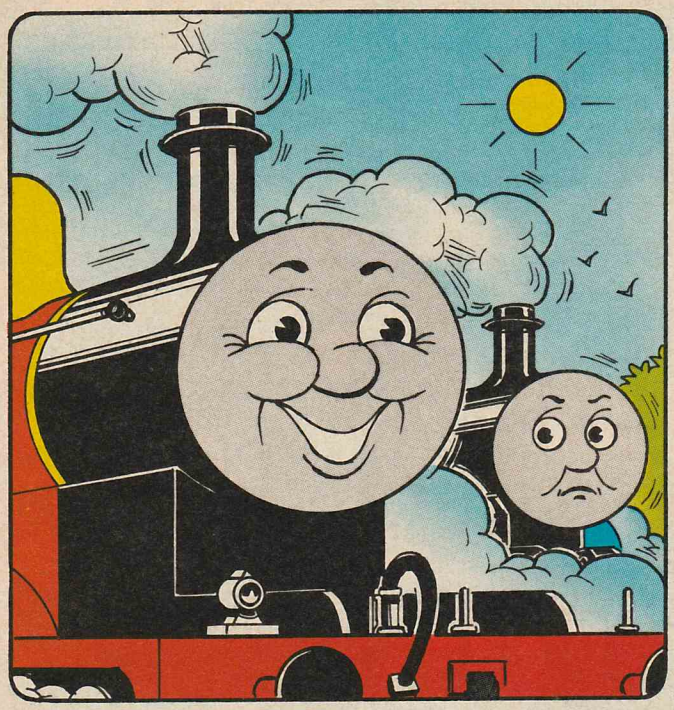
WHIZZING WHEELS!

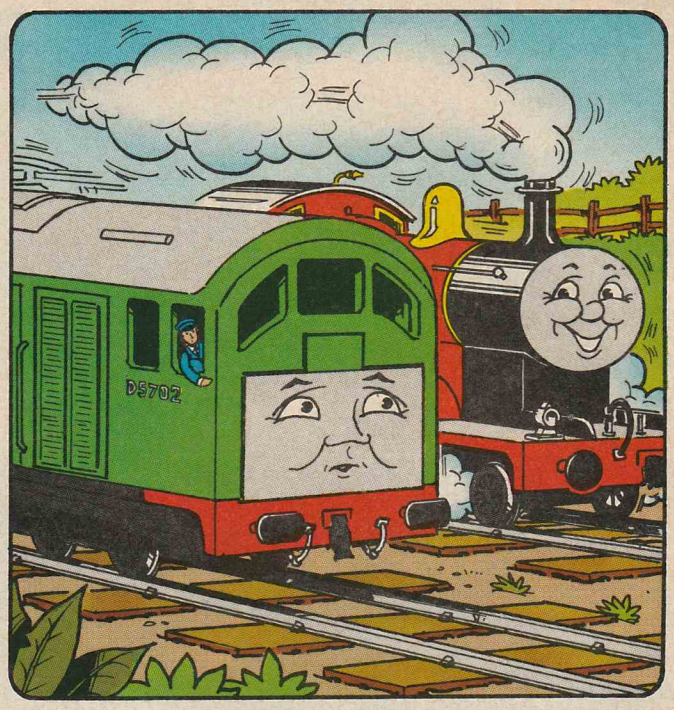


1. James was feeling very pleased indeed. The Fat Controller had sent Gordon to the Works for a service so James was to take the morning Express instead.

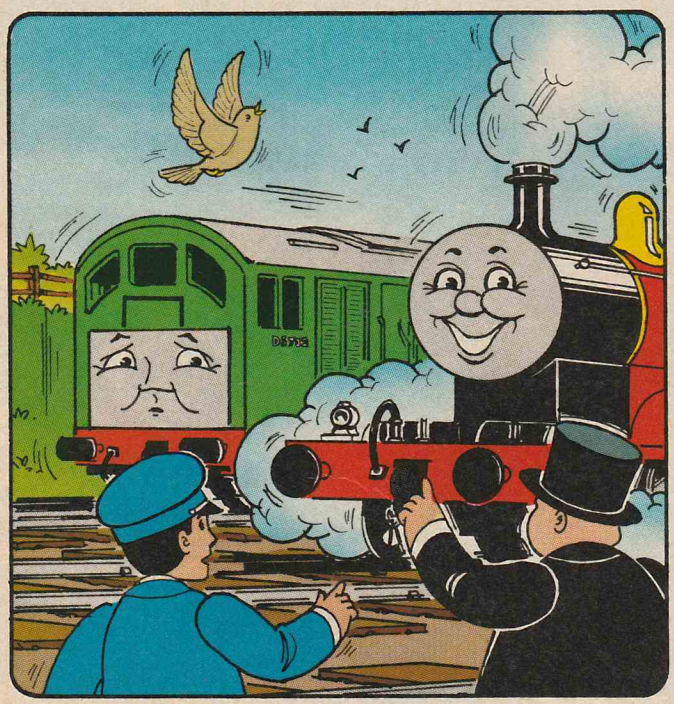
2. "A Really Useful Engine like me can pull the Express as efficiently as Gordon can!" boasted James as he was coupled to the coaches in the yard.



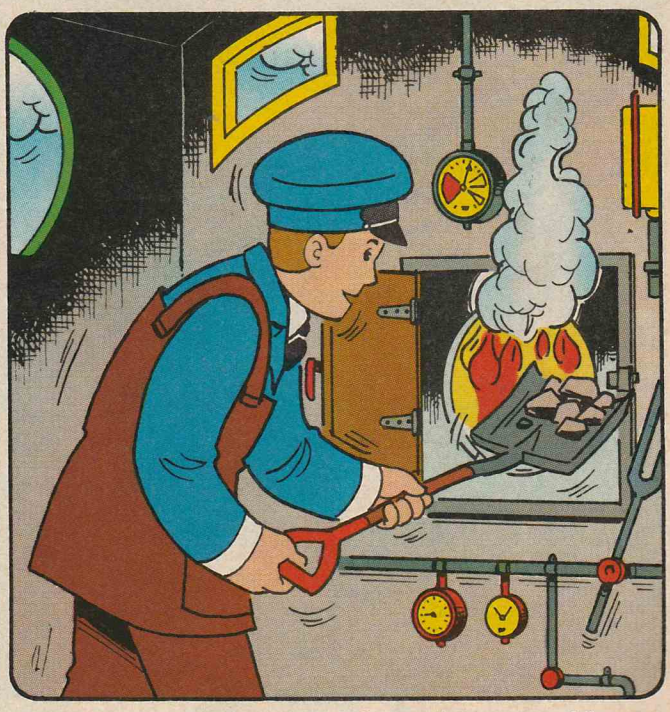
3. "Oh, yes! My wheels can go very fast!" added James grandly. The other engines heard him showing off. "He's getting too big for his buffers!" said Thomas.



4. Just before James left, Boco arrived with a goods train from the Big Harbour. He rolled slowly into the yard. "I'm not running properly!" he spluttered.

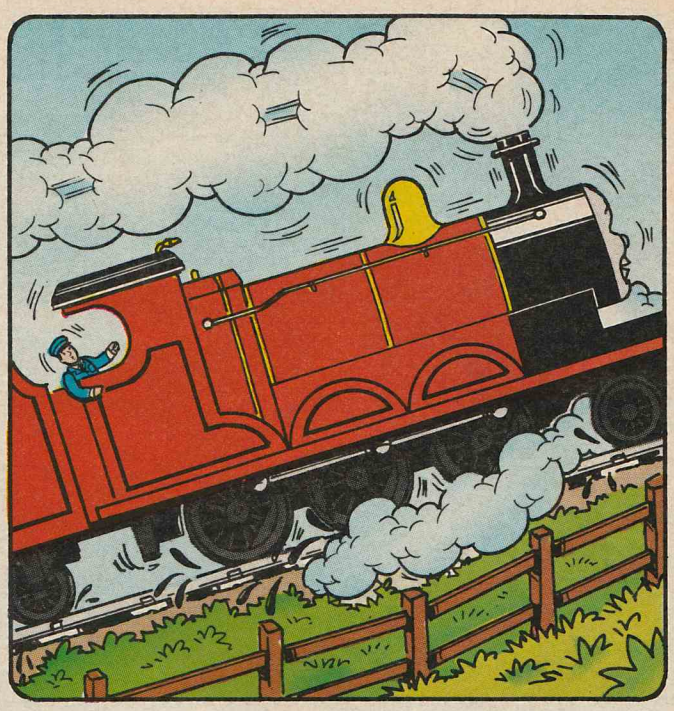


5. The Fat Controller fetched the Chief Engineer to see what was wrong with Boco. Meanwhile, James set off. "Peep! Make way!" he whistled, puffing proudly.

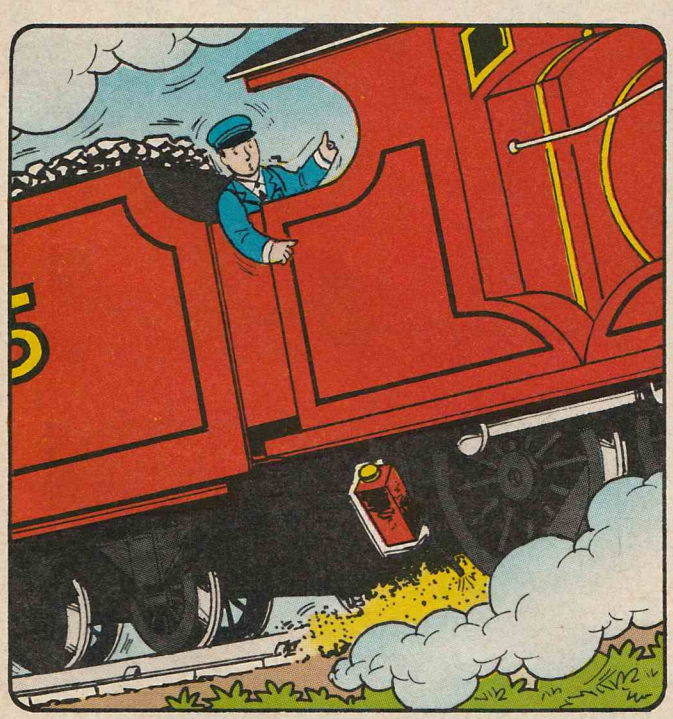


6. James sped along the main line. His fireman shovelled more coal into the firebox. James had a good head of steam to help him race up Gordon's Hill.

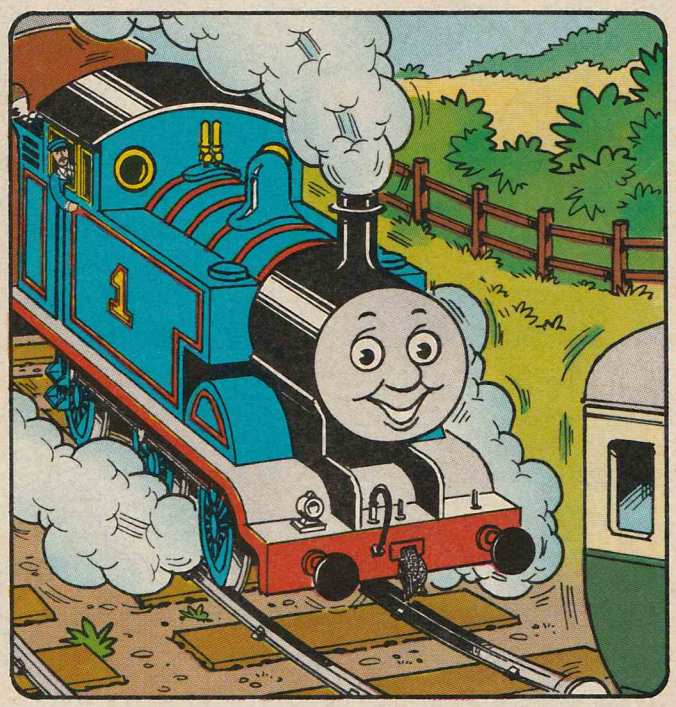
7. James's wheels were speeding round fast now. "Climbing Gordon's Hill is easy!" he thought. "I can do it! I will do it!" But suddenly, James slowed down.



8. "Oh, what's wrong?" he thought. James huffed, puffed and pulled harder. But it was no use. James's wheels were slipping. His driver applied the brake.



9. "There's oil on the track!" he called, peering from his cab. The driver scattered sand on the oily rails from James's sand box. "Now try!" he said.



10. James' wheels whizzed around but they slipped all the more. There was so much oil. James's driver had to send for help. Soon Thomas came puffing along.

11. Thomas was pulling Annie. The Fat Controller and some workmen were aboard. "Boco had sprung a leak. That's where this oil came from!" the Fat Controller told James's driver. "How will I get underway with the Express, Sir?" asked James, who wasn't feeling like a Really Useful Engine anymore. James and his coaches stood still on the side of the hill.

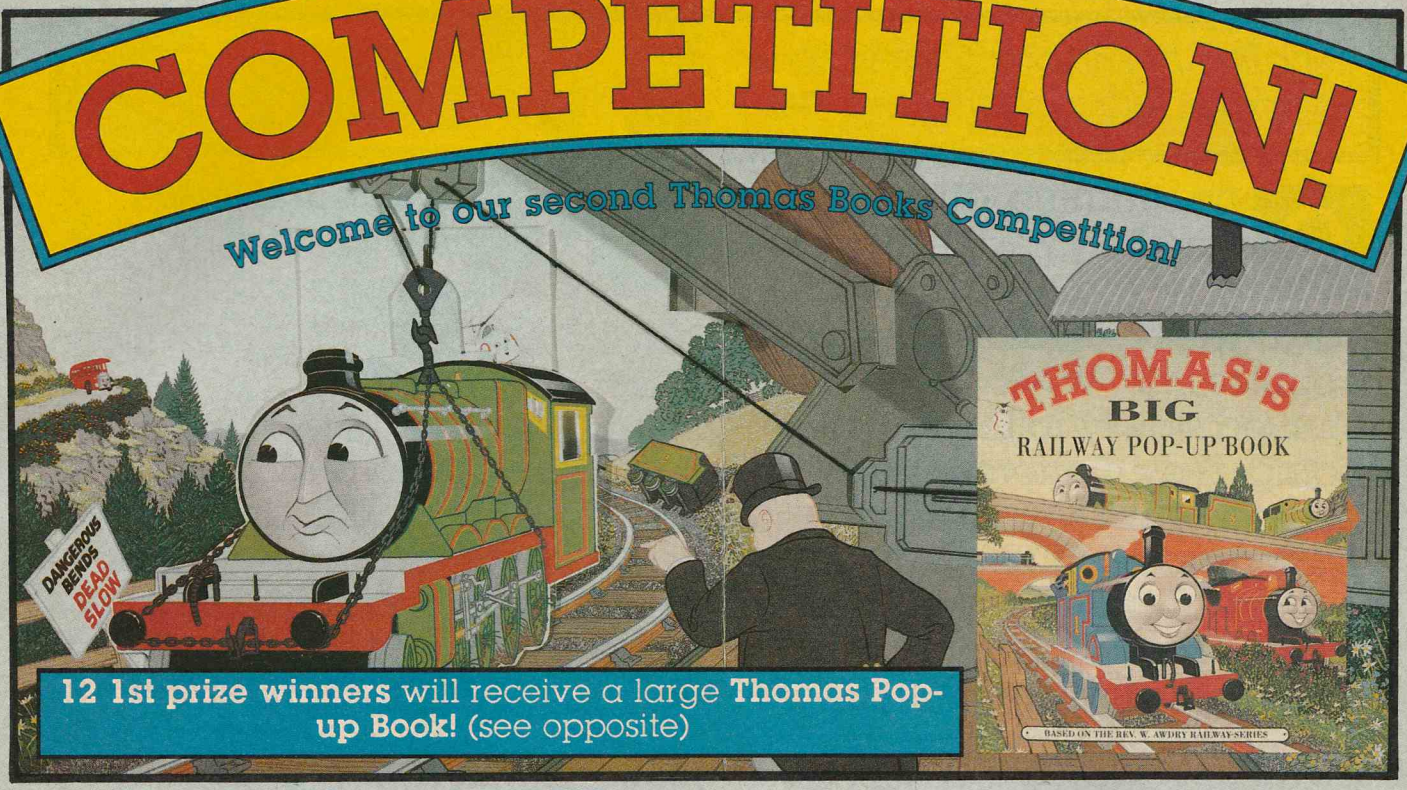
12. Thomas was coupled to the back of the Express and more sand was scattered on the oily rails. With Thomas pushing and James pulling, the Express slowly climbed the hill. Thomas was uncoupled to wait while the workmen cleaned the track. "Thank you!" said James . "My wheels may turn very fast, but I couldn't move on the oil without your help, Thomas!"

THE END!

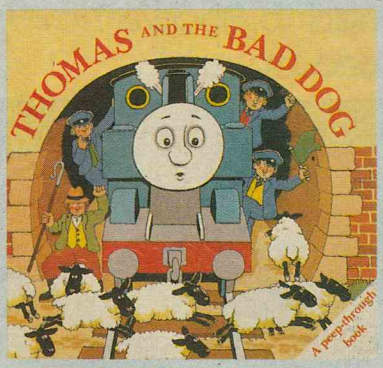
In our next issue: The Thomas-kart!

COMPETITION!

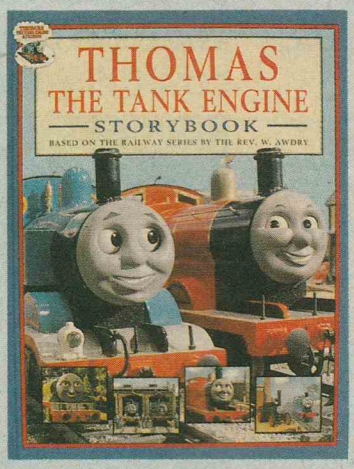
Welcome to our second Thomas Books Competition!



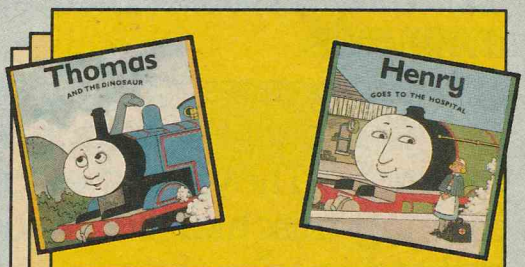
12 1st prize winners will receive a large **Thomas Pop-up Book!** (see opposite)



Our second **12 prize winners** will receive a **Thomas Peep-through** book! (above)



12 3rd prize winners receive a **TV Story Book!** (above)



24 lucky **4th prize winners** will receive an **Easy to Read** book, either *"Thomas and the Dinosaur"* or *"Henry goes to Hospital"*. (above)

To win one of these exciting books simply answer the following question:

How many Fat Controller's can you see on this page?

Cut out this page and send your answer along with your name and address to: *Thomas/Reed Books Competition, Marvel Comics, 13-15 Arundel St, London, WC2 3DX. Closing date: 24th Sept.'93*

If you would like to tell us how much you enjoyed reading your prize book, please send us your letters and we will print them in our regular Book Review pages!

Rules: This competition is open to readers other than employees and their families of The Children's Division; Reed International Books., and Marvel Comics Ltd. The editor's decision is final and no correspondence shall be entered into.

BEHAVING BADLY!

One morning, Thomas and Percy were shunting trucks in the Main Station yard. The trucks were being troublesome. When Thomas chuffed slowly to the end of the siding, they clattered noisily behind him. They jolted Thomas so hard he hit the buffers.

"That was your fault!" he called crossly to the trucks. They giggled naughtily. Percy's trucks were behaving badly, too. They rocked about, spilling their loads.

"What a mess!" groaned Percy. The trucks sniggered all the more. They were enjoying making mischief. Soon Boco arrived to take the trucks to the Big Harbour. Thomas explained what had happened.

"You're welcome to them, Boco!" he said.

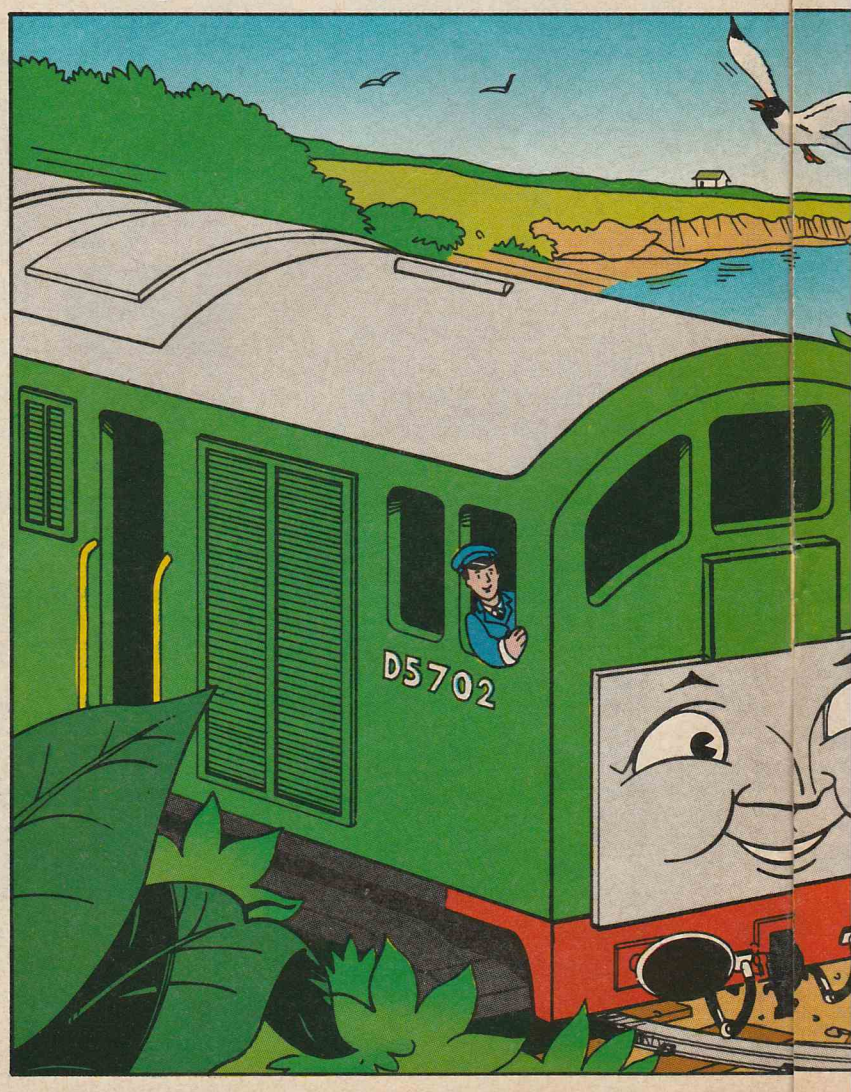
"Good riddance to trucks! That's what I say!" huffed Percy. Boco was worried.

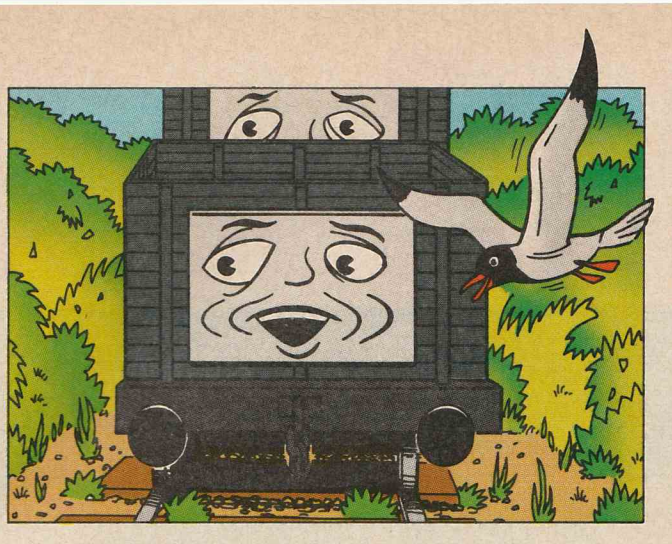
"I hope they behave with me," he said. The trucks overheard.

"We'll have fun! We'll have fun!" they mocked. They were coupled to Boco and he set off. Boco had not gone far when his driver saw that the signal ahead was at 'stop'. Boco pulled up. The trucks deliberately bumped into him. CLUNK!

When the signal showed the line was clear, Boco rolled smoothly forwards. But the trucks did not move.

"What are they up to?" said Boco. He stopped and his driver went to find out. The driver saw Boco's coupling had snapped so he could not pull the trucks to the harbour. Luckily, there was an old siding behind them. The driver walked back and changed the points on the line. Then he returned to Boco who carefully backed up and





trucks

pushed the trucks into the siding. Afterwards, Boco hurried on his way.

"When we get to the Big Harbour, I'll ring the Fat Controller and tell him where they are!" said Boco's driver. The trucks did not hear. They stood all alone in the disused siding. They thought Boco had abandoned them forever, to rust away in the siding. They were sad and lonely.

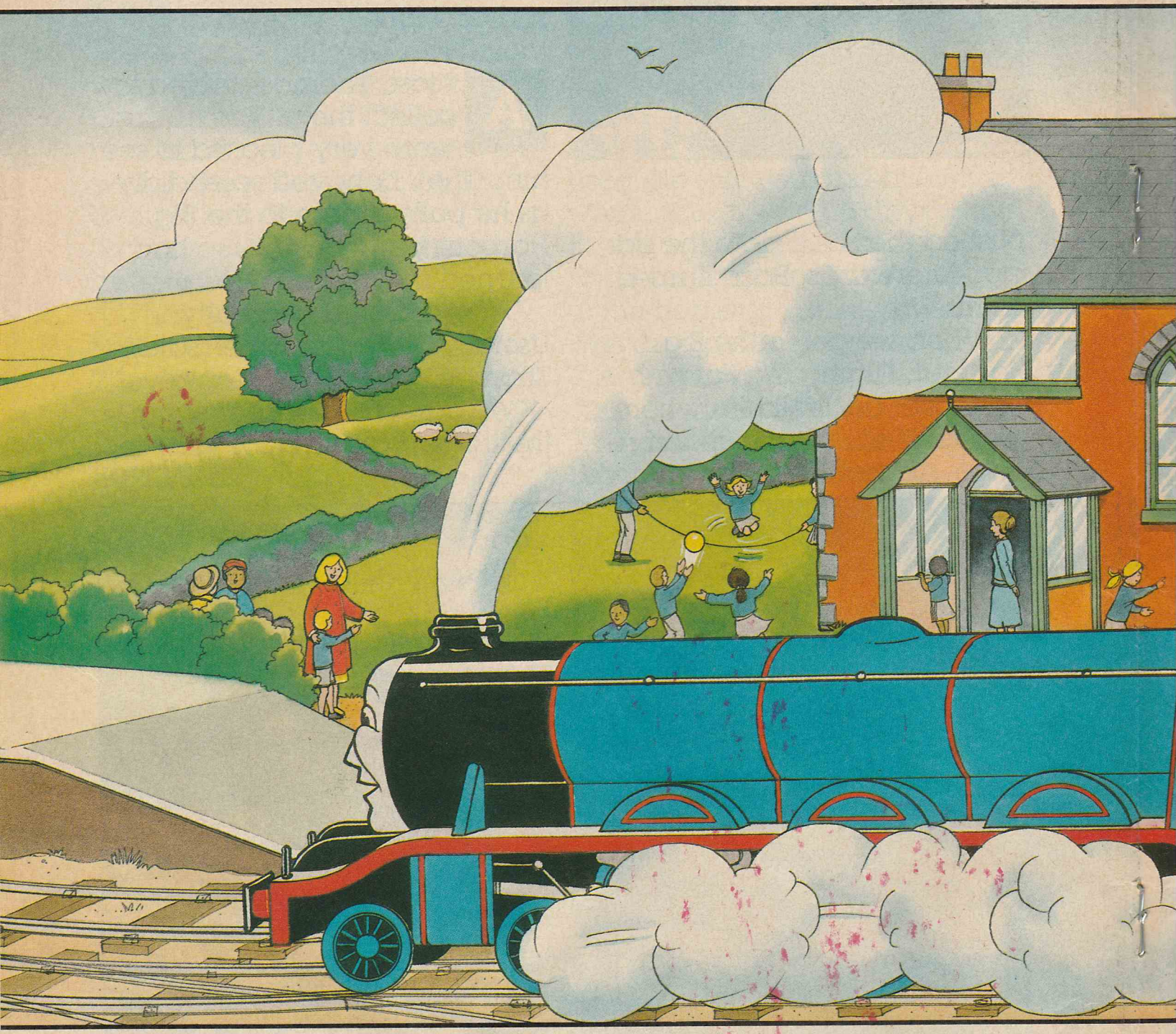
At last, Thomas arrived to collect them. The trucks were very pleased to see him. They behaved splendidly as he pulled them to the Big Harbour yard. The trucks had learned their lesson.

"Trucks should be Really Useful, not troublesome!" said Thomas.

"We agree! We agree!" sang the trucks happily.

THE END!

Past the sc



Which engine can you see?
What colour is he?
What number is he?
How many guards are in his cabin?

Point to the scho
Can you see the
How many footb
Point to the scho

school!

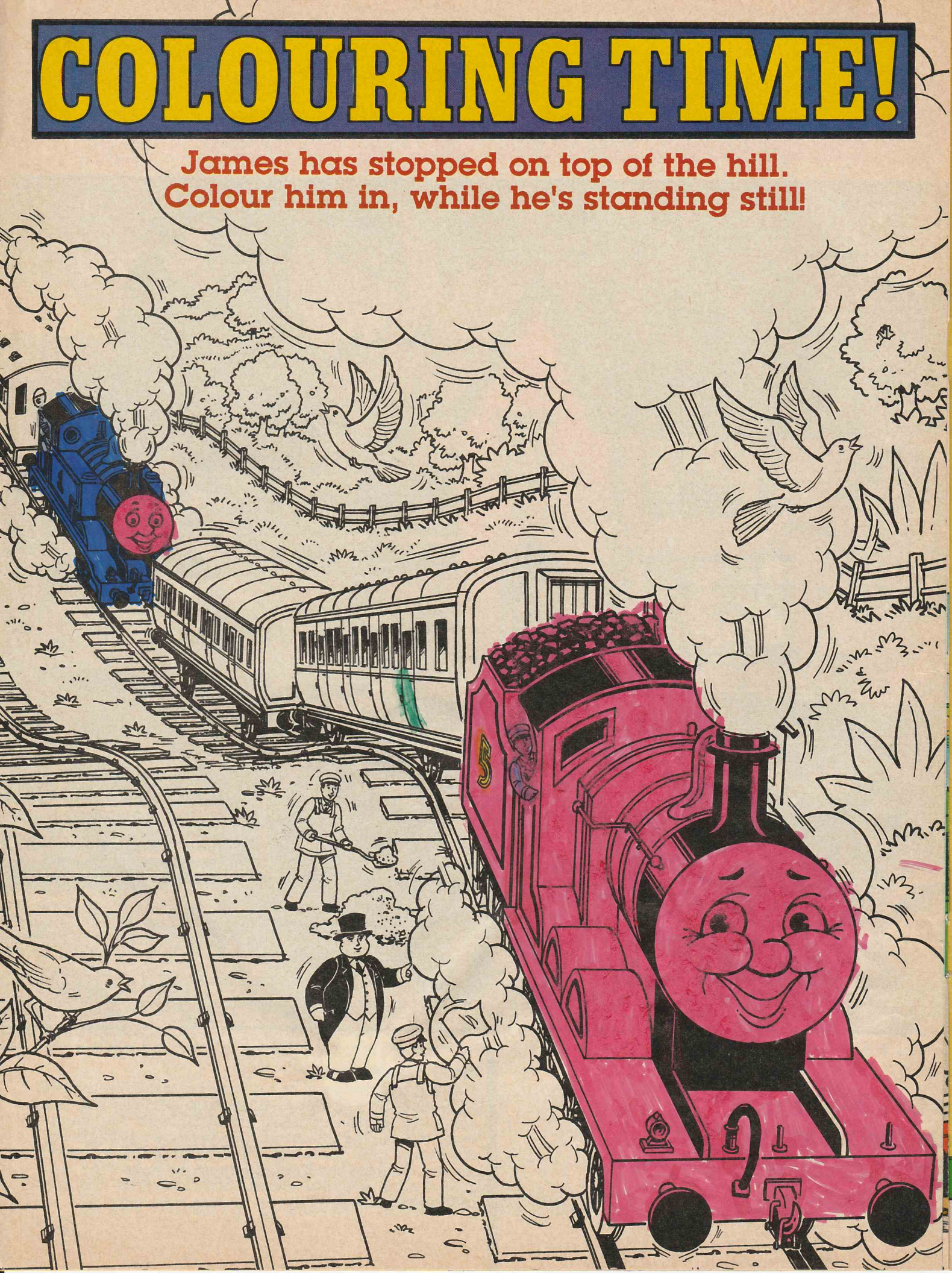
school!
e the playground?
ootballs can you count?
school bell!

Note to parents:
This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the comic with your child, remove this part of the centrespread by cutting along the dotted line. There will be a **'mural page'** in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends**. Why not collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room!

In our next issue: Party time!

COLOURING TIME!

James has stopped on top of the hill.
Colour him in, while he's standing still!



JOIN THE DOTS!

What can the lost property be? Join the dots and you will see!

COMPETITION!

Win the Complete Miniature Range of Thomas toys or a Thomas Playset and Adventure Set!

1st prize winners will win the Complete Miniature Range! (two examples below)

ERTL®

Closing date: 24th Sept.'93

2nd prize winners will win a 4 Piece Playset!

3rd prize winners will win a 6 Piece Playset!

All you have to do for the chance to win one of these Thomas prizes is answer the following question:

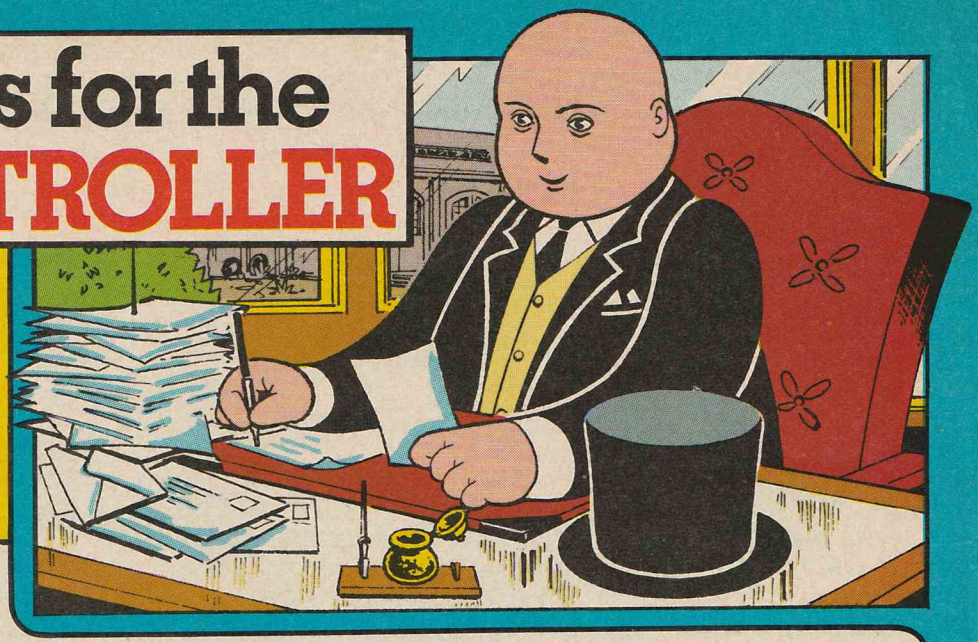
What are Thomas's carriages called?

(Look at the picture above to help you!)

Send your answer on a postcard with your name, age and address to Thomas/ERTL Miniature Range Competition, Marvel Comics, 13-15 Arundel St, London.WC2 3DX.

This Competition is open to all readers other than employees of ERTL (UK) Ltd, and Marvel Comics Ltd. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence shall be entered into.

Your letters for the FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas or his friends? If so, then write to me at the address shown below! I would be so very pleased to hear from you!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

STAR LETTER!

Dear Fat Controller,
I have hay-fever at the moment and I am feeling a little sad. I know that when I have read my Thomas the Tank Engine stories, I will feel much better. I think you are a very kind man who cares about all his engines.

Love from **Hayley**, aged 6.

I do hope you get better very soon. Many of my engines get hay-fever too! Thank you very much for your kind thoughts. I work very hard to look after all my engines and their friends.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The sender of any letter that is printed as our **STAR LETTER** will win some splendid **Thomas Pre-school** toys courtesy of *ERTL (UK) Ltd.*

FAMOUS MUSEUM!

Dear Fat Controller,
Today, my cousin and I went to the York Railway Museum. We saw Thomas and all his friends.
Afterwards, my mum bought us Thomas flags and we went to York station and waved to the drivers.

love from **Stephen**, aged 2.

I must say! You are lucky to have visited such a fine museum. I do hope you managed to see the Mallard 4468 Locomotive there. That is one of their most prized engines. There are also some very fine modern locomotives there too!

SMART RAILWAY!

Dear Fat Controller,
I really like travelling on the Miniature trains near where I live. The guard wears a big Thomas badge, and so do all the drivers.

Love from **Timothy Loud**, aged 2.

My! The Miniature Railway seems to provide lots of fun and I'm sure its very well organised too!

BIRTHDAYS!

John Turing, Nigel Allen Horsham, Michael Rhodes, Daniel Barrowdale, Dicky Baxter, Robert Cunnings, Darren Anthony Dean, Daniel George, Cameron Sproul, Christopher Clarke, Joseph Hands, Andrew Agnew, Jonathan Chalkin, Kevin Hailey, Ricky Lee Howard, Michael Tallentine and John Hall.

If you would like a birthday mention printed in one of our future issues, please send details on a postcard at least **nine weeks** in advance!

Yours
Sir Topham Hatt
The Fat Controller!

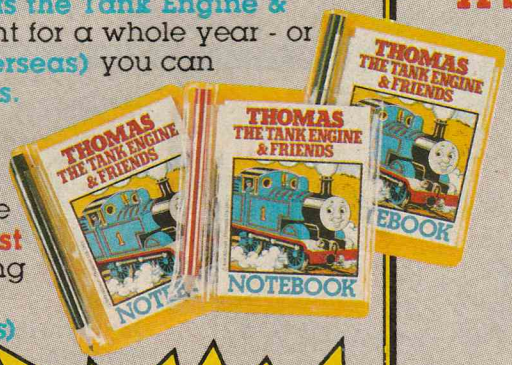
Send your letters to:

The Fat Controller
The Island of Sodor
c/o Marvel Comics Ltd
13/15 Arundel Street
London WC2.

Subscribe!

Subscribe to Thomas's very own magazine and receive a splendid diecast model of Thomas from ERTL®

For just £18.00 (35.00 overseas), your child will be sent Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends every fortnight for a whole year - or for £10.00 (£18.00 overseas) you can subscribe for 6 months. Additionally, if you subscribe for a whole year (UK subscribers only) you will receive a FREE Thomas diecast model plus a charming notebook and pencil (see opposite pictures) and personalised Fat Controller's Card enabling you to enter offers and competitions frequently open to Fat Controller's Card holders. Simply fill out the appropriate form below!



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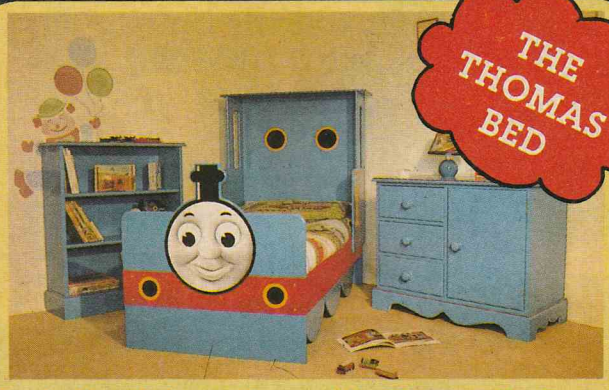

For further information on the **Thomas the Tank Engine Bed, Bedhead** and **Toybox**, plus the complimentary blue bedroom furniture please call: **Joshua Jones Ltd 0258 858470**
or for a **FREE** colour brochure and price list please send a large stamped addressed envelope to: ***Joshua Jones Ltd, 1A Baillie Gate Ind. Est. Sturminster Marshall. Wimbourne. Dorset. BH21 4DB.***

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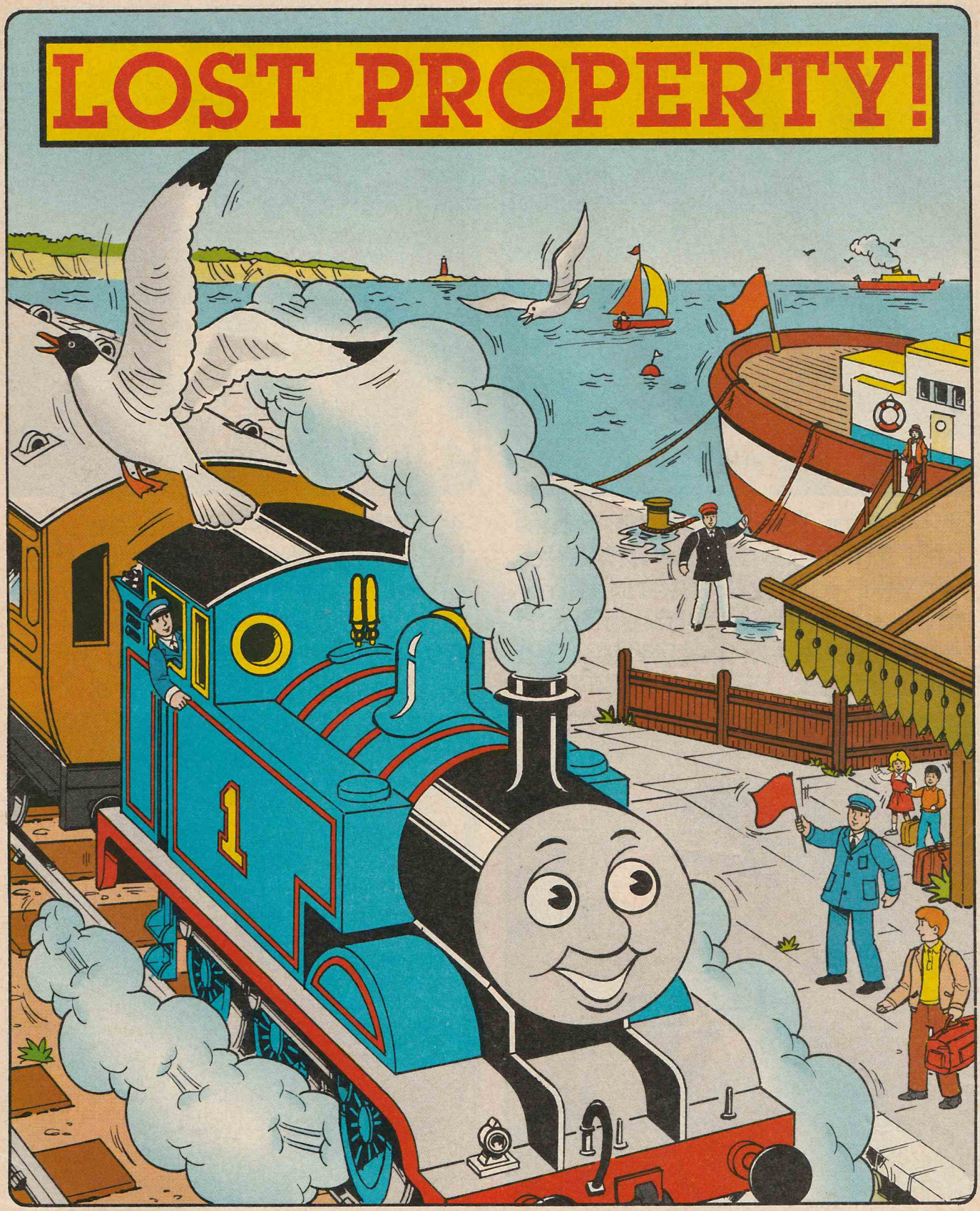
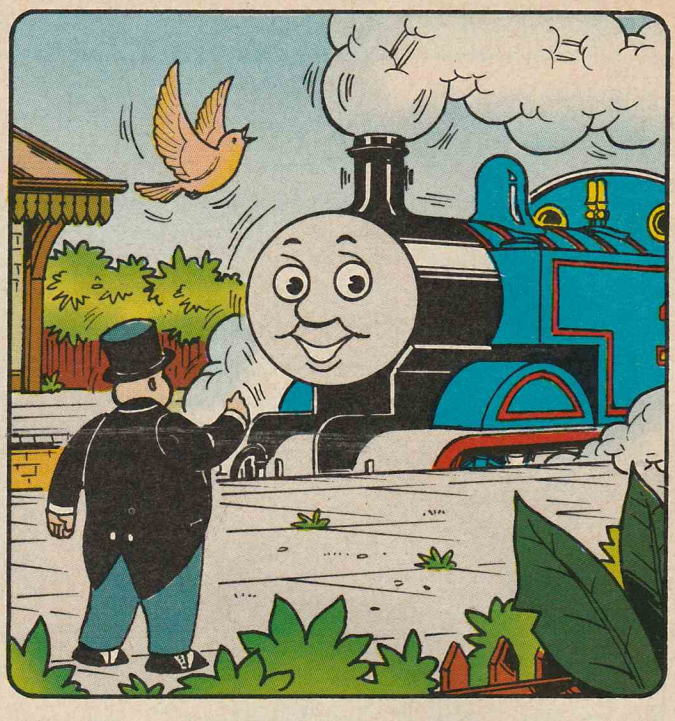
LOST PROPERTY!



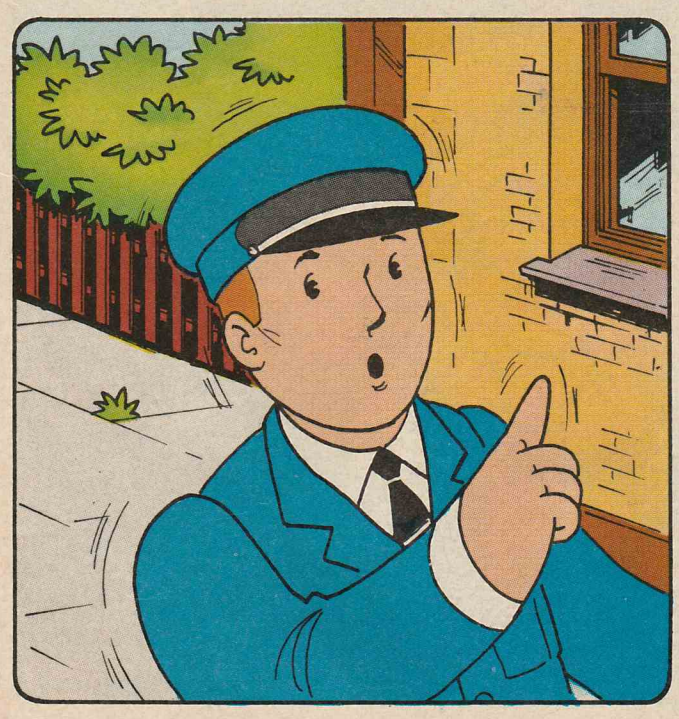
1. Stephen and Bridget, the Fat Controller's grandchildren could hardly wait! They were coming to Sodor for the holidays. They arrived at the Big Harbour on the ferry.

2. "Look, there's Thomas!" cried Bridget as Thomas steamed into the harbour station with his carriages Annie and Clarabel. Thomas looked for Stephen and Bridget on the platform.

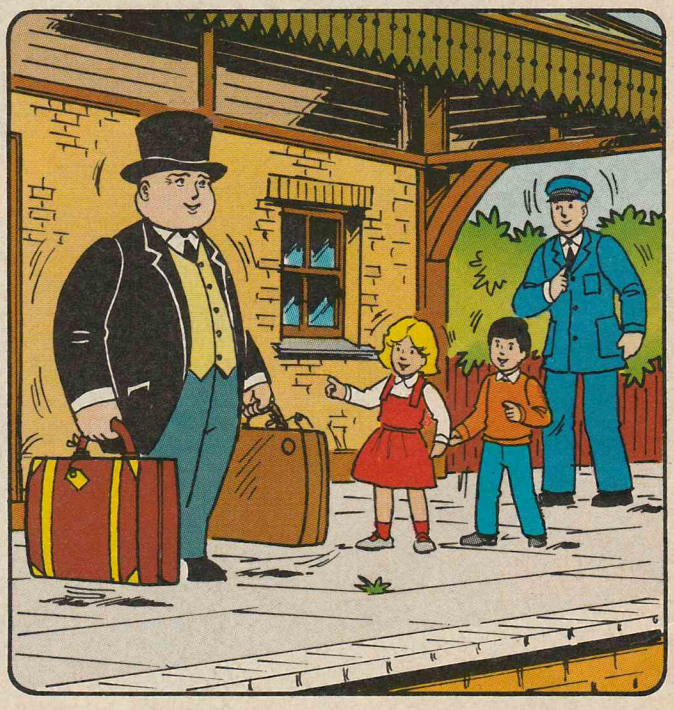
3. "Peep! Peep! Hello!" whistled Thomas as the children waved to him. The stationmaster helped them into Annie while a porter loaded their cases.



4. Other passengers caught the train, too. Thomas puffed on his way back to the Main Station where the Fat Controller was waiting happily for his grandchildren.



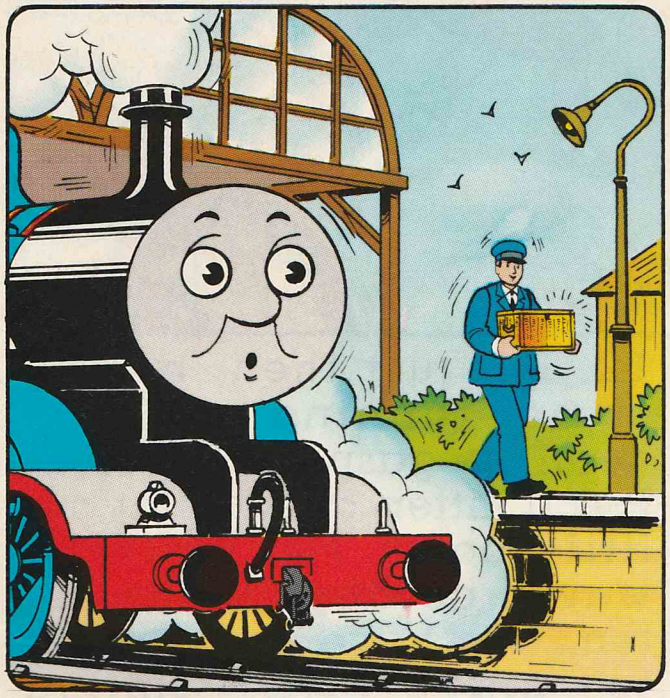
5. When Thomas had pulled up, Stephen and Bridget ran along the platform to greet the Fat Controller. "You've forgotten your luggage!" said the guard.



6. The Fat Controller took the children's cases from the guard, who lifted them out of Annie. "You'd be amazed what people leave behind on trains!" he said.

7. "Anything we find goes into the 'Lost Property' office until it's claimed!" the Fat Controller added. He promised to show Stephen and Bridget later.

8. Thomas set off with the passenger train along his branch line. At Wellsworth, the stationmaster handed the guard a basket. "Special delivery!" he said.



9. When Thomas returned to the Main Station again, his guard lifted out the basket; but no one came to collect it. Then Thomas heard some funny noise from inside.

10. The guard opened the basket slowly. A little kitten jumped out! "I'll take it to 'Lost Property'," said the guard. "It must be hungry".

11. The Fat Controller was showing his grandchildren everything in the 'Lost Property' office. There were umbrellas, briefcases, hats, a bicycle, a teddy bear and even a wig. "Look at this lost property!" said Thomas's guard. "A kitten!" cried the children. "Perhaps it's owner won't come and we can keep it!" said Stephen.

12. But just then, a man came running in. "Oh dear!" he gasped. "I'm late!" Has a kitten arrived for my little boy?" The children waved goodbye to the kitten. "We have got Thomas to play with" smiled Bridget. "A kitten must be the strangest lost property of all!" smiled Bridget. Thomas agreed!

THE END!

In our next issue:Thomas's birthday!